



Tennessee Crop Weather

Tennessee Field Office • PO Box 41505 • Nashville, TN 37204 • (615) 781-5300 • www.nass.usda.gov
In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Issued Tuesday 3:00 PM; September 2, 2008

Week Ending August 31, 2008

TROPICAL STORM FAY BRINGS BENEFICIAL RAIN

Tropical Storm Fay moved through the State last week and brought widespread, soaking rains to most areas. This rainfall was especially beneficial for double-cropped soybeans and pastures which were ailing from the lack of moisture. Harvest progress for the State’s corn silage and tobacco crops was slowed by the wet weather. Cotton development continued to lag behind the normal pace and now trails the 5-year average by more than a week. Virtually all of the State’s soybeans were blooming with over 90 percent setting pods. Other field activities included topping tobacco, applying fungicides to soybeans, and spraying for weeds in pastures.

There were five days suitable for fieldwork. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 10 percent very short, 30 percent short, 58 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 22 percent very short, 33 percent short, and 45 percent adequate. Temperatures were slightly below average across Middle and East Tennessee and 1 to 3 degrees above average in the West. Rainfall was well above normal for the entire State thanks to the remnants of Fay.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2007	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn – Dent	95	88	99	99	Corn	3	15	35	41	6
Corn – Silage Harvested	69	59	78	71	Cotton	0	7	33	53	7
Corn – Mature	38	20	94	68	Pastures	14	25	35	24	2
Cotton – Bolls Opening	11	n/a	71	32	Soybeans	11	19	32	35	3
Soybeans – Setting Pods	93	87	95	96	Tobacco	2	4	34	49	11
Soybeans – Dropping Leaves	12	7	43	22						
Tobacco – Topped	85	77	86	90						
Tobacco – Burley Harvested	30	19	42	44						
Tobacco – Dark Air-Cured Harvested	50	35	69	56						
Tobacco – Dark Fire-Cured Harvested	40	26	50	49						

n/a = not available

County Agent Comments

“Much needed areas received rain this week, with anywhere from .5" to 2". The overall bean situation and farmer morale is better. Corn shelling will begin as soon as the end of next week and we are expecting mixed results with yield. Cotton has come on strong as bolls are filling out, and about all of the cotton is at cut-out.”

James Griffin, Lauderdale County

“Rains continued this week to improve crops and pastures. Soybeans are in blooming to pod set stage and look very promising. Farmers are spraying fungicides on soybeans, some for first time ever, and spraying weeds in pastures. Calf crops are over 100 pounds heavier per weaned calf at weaning this year due to plenty of forages in pastures this summer.”

Steve Glass, Decatur County

“The recent rainfall throughout the county has slowly started to green everything up. Pastures are much less stressed than they were only one week ago.”

David Cook, Davidson County

“2 to 6 inches of rain fell across the county Monday and Tuesday. This will significantly help pastures and late soybeans and it allows for fall planting of winter annuals and permanent pasture. Double cropped soybeans will be helped but how much is still in question.”

Richard Groce, Maury County

“Fay brings million dollar rain! Tropical storm Fay brought much needed moisture to the area by producing showers from Monday thru Wednesday that produced 3 to 4 inches of rain. The best rain this area has seen in sometime for crops. Little to no run off did little to help ponds and streams but was the answer to a lot of prayers.”

Ed Burns, Franklin County

“This week’s rain was a life saver.”

Joe E. Hall, Anderson County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: August 31, 2008 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending August 31, 2008				Current Week 8/31/08	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	91	65	78	2	0.51	3	42.28	6.79	26.60	5.06
Tri-City_RGNL_A	89	62	73	2	2.02	3	24.76	-3.89	13.84	-4.33
Brownsville_TN	91	66	78	2	0.52	1	37.55	2.02	21.30	-0.27
Chattanooga/Lov	92	66	78	2	3.99	4	30.85	-5.59	16.71	-3.83
Clarksville_Sew	93	65	78	3	0.50	2	33.05	-1.36	19.92	-0.67
Cookeville	89	63	74	0	2.87	5	32.55	-6.44	19.63	-4.16
Covington	89	66	77	1	0.50	1	37.13	2.57	21.47	0.77
Crossville_AP	87	62	73	3	3.05	3	32.27	-6.14	19.10	-4.11
Dayton	90	62	75	0	4.48	4	30.42	-7.94	18.12	-4.04
Dickson_AG	94	61	77	2	0.64	2	35.16	-1.46	20.24	-2.20
Dover_1W	90	66	77	3	1.12	3	38.18	2.56	20.82	-0.73
Dyersburg	91	66	78	2	1.54	2	30.59	-3.36	17.05	-3.92
Erwin_1W	89	60	72	3	2.47	4	26.22	-8.69	16.43	-6.83
Huntingdon_Wate	93	65	77	3	0.18	3	37.40	1.83	20.80	-0.85
Jackson_Exp_Stn	96	66	78	3	0.84	2	45.65	10.47	26.93	5.18
Kingston_AG	91	63	75	3	4.30	3	33.23	-7.07	20.37	-3.68
Knoxville_AP	91	63	76	2	1.91	3	30.24	-2.80	18.02	-1.56
Lewisburg	91	63	75	1	4.44	3	32.75	-4.55	20.95	-1.61
Lexington_TN	90	66	77	2	1.61	2	46.56	12.18	29.20	8.17
Linden	90	64	76	2	1.82	3	42.88	5.01	25.79	3.08
Martin	91	66	77	2	1.63	3	38.01	2.19	20.17	-2.24
Mc_Minnville_Tn	93	63	75	1	2.74	3	25.06	-11.45	14.97	-6.95
Memphis_AG	92	68	79	-1	3.02	2	46.01	11.17	28.71	7.54
Milan	94	64	78	4	0.06	2	41.63	5.05	24.48	1.69
Murfreesboro_5N	91	64	75	0	2.60	4	30.08	-6.14	17.93	-4.35
Nashville_Metro	91	66	77	2	1.66	5	34.04	1.43	21.22	1.00
Newcomb	92	62	75	5	2.07	4	28.60	-9.21	18.07	-5.72
Oneida	89	62	73	4	2.49	5	24.03	-13.78	18.30	-5.49
Portland_TN	90	67	76	3	1.97	4	37.83	2.41	23.52	1.56
Pulaski_Water_P	90	63	76	-1	2.67	3	38.50	1.26	24.43	2.76
Savannah_6SW	93	65	78	2	0.52	3	44.39	5.93	27.34	4.52
Sparta_TN	90	62	75	3	2.19	4	34.57	-3.12	22.55	-0.42
Springfield	90	65	75	2	1.30	2	36.22	2.26	22.76	1.83
Springhill	89	63	75	1	3.41	3	32.98	-4.57	21.35	-1.41
Union_City	90	62	76	2	1.32	3	34.32	-0.62	18.12	-3.47
Waynesboro_TN	90	61	75	2	1.01	3	36.17	-3.25	21.97	-1.49

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Copyright 2008: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved

The USDA, NASS, Tennessee Field Office gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:
National Weather Service and the University of Tennessee's Extension.